



The Maritime News

The Official Newspaper
of San Francisco Maritime
National Historical Park

March, April, May 2010

First Bloom Coming Up Roses

Not exactly roses—but since October 2009 youngsters from the Willie Mays Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco are constructing a native plant landscape in Aquatic Park. Using a grant from the National Park Foundation, the park is getting 4th and 6th grade students down to the waterfront and out in the garden in this eight-month program.

Park rangers Janie Mayton and Rejane Butler tend the project by creating hands-on activities (like field trips and crafts) that make learning about conservation and stewardship fun. Teacher-Ranger (elementary school teacher in real life) Marge Fujikawa (see page two) adapted the curriculum she developed about plants last summer, and the boys and girls went on a scavenger hunt aboard *Balclutha*, finding things made from plants such as lines or ropes (made from hemp). And the kids have already broken ground on



One Saturday activity was measuring the planting bed in Aquatic Park.



The girls and boys visited the Botanical Gardens in Golden Gate Park where they spent the afternoon in the California Native Plants garden. After picking a favorite plant, and finding out the name, they drew it in their nature journals.

their garden plot located just across from Ghirardelli Square. During the winter rainstorms, the kids are soaking up knowledge about native plants and habitats, eager to start planting on May 8, 2010.

“The children will be focusing on low-growing native species like ceanothus, manzanitas, lupines, and native fuchsias,” said Ranger Janie Mayton. The finished garden will include informative signage so that the youngsters’ work can teach other park visitors about the importance of preserving natural habitats and avoiding invasive species.

Although this is the first *First Bloom* project at San Francisco Maritime NHP, the program began in 2007. Since then it has blossomed into a national initiative at 26 parks across the country that serves children and families from urban neighborhoods.



Each child used the planting bed measurements to draw a scale model of the garden on graph paper. The kids compared the characteristics of about 15 native plants, such as color and how high each grows, as they designed their own garden.



Ranger Janie Mayton and Boys and Girls Club leader Rebecca Randall with the *First Bloom* kids in Aquatic Park near the location of the future native plant garden. Photo, right, two of the boys on board the *Balclutha* at Hyde Street Pier.

Welcome

The winter rains have recharged California’s watersheds, and signal a good year for things green and growing. Here at the park, we have been tending our own garden—with the help of youngsters from the San Francisco Boys and Girls Clubs. Thanks to a grant from the National Park Foundation, we are hosting a *First Bloom* project to create a native plant landscape here in Aquatic Park. You can learn more about the program in this issue—and then watch the results sprout in May!

This spring, we launch another season of ranger-led tours aboard the 1891 scow schooner *Alma* (see inside for details), and extend our very successful Teacher-Ranger-Teacher program for a fourth year.

With funding from the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, we offer public school teachers an eight-week stipend, a flat hat, and a chance to serve the public side-by-side with our rangers. This cross pollination of NPS and public school education techniques helps us find new ways to get kids more involved in their National Parks. This year’s application deadline is May 3, 2010, so if you’re interested, or know someone who might be, please call us today.

From women’s history and Asian-Pacific Islander heritage programs, to living history reenactments, to traditional craft classes: there are lots of reasons to visit us this spring. Please stop by!



Howard Levitt
Acting Superintendent



1 First Bloom At Aquatic Park

Youngsters from the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco are getting their hands dirty in Aquatic Park.

2 Teachers Wanted! Be A Park Ranger This Summer

Discover your inner ranger and spend an enriching and fun eight weeks serving the public on Hyde Street Pier.

4 Why We Need To ♥ Plants

Plants Rock! Where would we be without them? That slimy seaweed is especially awesome.

Park Website: www.nps.gov/safr

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National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

Established in 1988, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park encompasses 34 acres, and contains the most national historic landmarks of any unit in the National Park Service. In addition to the fleet of historic ships at Hyde Street Pier, the park includes the Aquatic Park Historic Landmark District (Bathhouse building, beach, lawn area, and bocce ball courts), a Visitor Center and a research library (in Fort Mason Center).

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The Maritime News March, April, May 2010 Volume No. 28.

Teachers: Be a National Park Ranger This Summer

Ever thought about being a National Park ranger? Last summer, three local teachers Margaret Burns, Marge Fujikawa, and Debbie Livingston took the plunge. As participants in the Teacher to Ranger to Teacher (TRT) program, they received training, donned flat hats, pinned on badges, and welcomed visitors from around the world. In addition to leading tours, these short-term rangers had a special assignment: find a way to bring the national park experience back to their classrooms.

Special Education teacher Marge Fujikawa (photo, right) developed a series of mini-lessons on plant connections (see front page) and maritime history that include a variety of activities which reinforce learning for students.

Fifth grade teacher Debbie Livingston compiled biographies of men and women who contributed to the maritime experience and

history of the area. She also developed pre and post-park visit activities related to the people she had researched. Margaret Burns engaged her second graders in a hands-on art project, featuring the fantastical murals and tile mosaics that adorn the historic Bathhouse building.

These teachers all made great rangers! As Ms. Livingston said, “It turns out that teach-

ers and the national parks have the same mission—find a way to reach our audience, and make ourselves and the experiences relevant.”

The TRT program at San Francisco Maritime is made possible by a contribution from the Jean McClatchy Bricker Memorial Fund. This fund was established by the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association to help children learn about their national heritage, culture, and the outdoors.

This summer, San Francisco Maritime’s TRTs will receive training and work for eight weeks from June 14 through August 6, 2010. TRTs receive a \$600 per week stipend, uniform, and a week of training conducted at the park.

The application deadline is May 3, 2010. For an application visit www.nps.gov/forteachers, or call Park Ranger John Cunnane, 415-561-7049, or email him at john_cunnane@nps.gov.

Go Sailing On Historic *Alma*

Feel the waves, breathe the salt air, and take in dazzling views while park rangers tell stories about waterfront history. The first sail of the 2010 season will be in May. *Alma* will sail most Saturdays, and some Thursdays, through the spring, summer and fall. Call 415-447-5000 for specific dates. Tickets prices are \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors, and \$20 for children ages 6–15. Children age five or under ride for free. All children must be accompanied by an adult. The *Alma* program departs promptly from Hyde Street Pier at 12:30 pm and returns at 4 pm. Proceeds from ticket sales support interpretive programs at San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. For more information, please call 415-447-5000.

Maritime Skills Classes For Adults

Come down to Hyde Street Pier for hands-on classes. Enrollment is limited, so sign up today! Email mgardner@maritime.org or call 415-292-6664.

OAR AND PADDLE MAKING
Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28, 9AM TO 5PM. Learn to construct your own set of oars or paddles. Open to all abilities. Limited to 10 students. \$125 and \$50 materials fee.

MARITIME SKETCHBOOK: BOATS ON THE BAY
Saturday, March 27, 9AM TO 5PM. Students will work in pen or pencil, then add water-color washes to bring sketches to life. Individual instruction and critique. Limited to 10 students. All levels welcome! \$100.

Collections Corner

Kenichi Horie and the *Mermaids*

By STEPHEN CANRIGHT, PARK CURATOR, MARITIME HISTORY

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is proud of its association with Kenichi Horie, Japan’s most famous yachtsman, and the first man in history to make a non-stop solo crossing of the Pacific Ocean.

As a gesture of his affection for the City of San Francisco, Mr. Horie donated two of

Kenichi Horie, standing on the deck of the *Mermaid*, arriving in San Francisco in 1962.

the small sailing boats most closely associated with his adventurous career to the park’s permanent museum collection.

Kenichi Horie is regarded as a Japanese National Hero, and we are most pleased to bask in a small reflection of his glory. Mr. Horie was an unknown 23-year-old when

he sailed his 19-foot black plywood sloop, the *Mermaid*, through the Golden Gate in 1962. His arrival was entirely unannounced. He had, in fact, left Japanese waters without any form of official clearance. Ninety-four days later, he arrived in San Francisco with no passport, no money, and little knowledge of English. Horie was briefly arrested, but Mayor George Christopher saw to it that he was released and presented with a visa and the key to the city.

The little *Mermaid* was shipped back to Japan, but was later returned to be displayed at the Maritime Museum. It was shown for many years on the veranda of the Museum, and became a must-see attraction for Japanese tourists in the 1960s and ’70s.

Mr. Horie, by now well-known and well-supported by sponsors, continued with his voyaging, delivering messages of environ-

Kenichi Horie on the *Malt’s Mermaid III*, arriving in San Francisco in 2002.

mentalism, conservation, and recycling to ports of call around the world. In 2002, he made a second trans-Pacific voyage, in a boat modeled after the original *Mermaid*, but built entirely of recycled materials. The *Malt’s Mermaid III* would ultimately join its older sister in the park’s museum collection. Both boats are currently in storage, but we hope to exhibit them side by side in the future.

Visitor Information

Dates and Hours of Operation:

Hyde Street Pier, located at Hyde and Jefferson Streets, is open 9:30AM to 5:00PM. Last pier entry at 4:30PM.

Visitor Center, located at the corner of Hyde and Jefferson Streets, is open 9:30AM to 5:00PM.

Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building, located on Beach Street at the foot of Polk Street. The building is open from 10:00AM to 4:00PM daily.

Maritime Library, located on the third floor of Building E in Fort Mason Center (auto entrance at Buchanan Street and Marina Blvd), open to the public by appointment Monday–Friday (1PM–4PM), and the 3rd Saturday of the month (10AM–5PM). Call 415-561-7030.

Contact Information
General Park Information: 415-447-5000
Maritime Store: 415-775-2665
Maritime Library: 415-561-7030
USS *Pampanito*: 415-775-1943
Park Website: www.nps.gov/safr
Association Website: www.maritime.org

Entrance Fee for Historic Vessels: \$5
Free for supervised children under 16.
Free with Federal Interagency Annual, Senior, and Access Passes, and San Francisco Maritime NHP Annual Pass. Free first Sunday of each month.

No-Fee Areas
Visitor Center, Hyde Street Pier, Aquatic Park Historic Landmark District, and the Maritime Library (Fort Mason Center).

Reservations
Reservations for school groups and other educational groups must be made at least two weeks prior to your visit, call 415-561-6662, ext. 30.

Accessibility Information

Programs in the Visitor Center, on Hyde Street Pier, and in the library are accessible. Accessibility to programs on the ships varies. For detailed information, please call the Visitor Center, 415-447-5000, or <http://www.nps.gov/safr/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm>.

Permits
Special Use Permits require at least a one month notice and application. Filming permits are arranged on an individual basis, call 415-561-7170.

2 Maritime News

Music, Tours, Events, Lectures and Living History

NEW PROGRAM

BEGINNER’S BIRD WALK FOR KIDS
Sunday, April 25, 10-11AM. Meet in the Visitor Center, in the Sailor’s Den. Free. All ages welcome!

Learn how to find and identify birds at Aquatic Park using binoculars and guidebooks. Guidebooks provided; bring binoculars if you have them. Dress warmly in layers. 😊

MORE PROGRAMS

CRAFTS FOR KIDS
Saturdays, March 27, April 24, and May 22, 3PM. Meet at the entrance to Hyde Street Pier. Free.

Want to learn a little about life at sea and make a cool maritime craft? Come on down to the pier and join us! 😊

MARITIME STORY TIME: THE TALE OF HENRY AND HARRY
Saturdays, March 6, April 10, and May 1, 1-1:30PM. Meet in the Visitor Center, in the Sailor’s Den. Free. Ages 6-12.

Join in this fun-filled, interactive program about two stowaway kittens aboard the *Balclutha*. Find out what it was like to be a feline sailor in 1887 rounding stormy Cape Horn heading to San Francisco. 😊

MEMORIES ETCHED IN IVORY: A SAILOR’S ART
Saturday, March 27, 1PM and Sunday, April 25, 3PM. Aboard Eureka at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free).

Learn the artistic process of scrimshaw. Create your own scrimshaw and take your art home with you. View scrimshaw pieces and other examples of sailor’s work. You don’t have to be an artist to attend! 😊

ANIMALS OF HYDE STREET PIER
3/8 (NOON), 3/22 (11AM), 3/26 (3PM); 4/21 (NOON), 4/30 (10AM); 5/3, 15, 16 (10AM), 5/19 (10AM). Meet at the end of Hyde Street Pier. Free.

Come experience a whole different world you might not realize exists at Hyde Street Pier. 😊

LIFESAVING AT THE GOLDEN GATE
Saturday, May 1, 3PM-3:45PM. Meet in the Visitor Center. Free.

In San Francisco’s maritime heyday, countless lives were saved by the brave men of the Lifesaving Service. Join us at the Visitor Center to view the tools of the trade. 😊


CLIMATE CHANGE AND CALIFORNIA WATER
Sundays, April 11 and May 30, 3-3:30PM. Meet in the Visitor Center, in the Sailor’s Den. Free.

Climate change is threatening California’s water supply. Discover how we can change our behavior to help conserve this precious resource.

HISTORIC WATERFRONT WALKING TOUR: FROM GOLD RUSH TO NATIONAL PARK
Saturdays and Sundays, 10:30-11:30AM. Meet in the Argonaut Hotel lobby (495 Jefferson St.), adjacent to the Visitor Center. Free.

Stroll with a Park Ranger to discover the history of this vibrant area at Fisherman’s Wharf. We’ll walk about a mile, on gently sloping and uneven terrain. Dress in layers, wear sunscreen, and walking shoes. 😊

😊 **FUN FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM**

 *The Maritime News* is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. Please recycle it again.

AQUATIC PARK BATHHOUSE BUILDING
Open 10:00AM to 4:00PM daily. Located at 900 Beach Street, at the foot of Polk Street. Ranger-led tour at 3PM daily. Free.

The newly restored 1939 Works Progress Administration-era building’s lobby and veranda are open to the public. View the the unique architecture, stunning murals, sculpture, and recent renovation work. 😊

ADVENTURES AT SEA: LIFE ABOARD A 19TH CENTURY SAILING SHIP
Daily, 2:15PM. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free).

Join a guided tour of the historic ship *Balclutha*. Discover the hardships and rewards of the sailors who fought for survival during the treacherous Cape Horn passage. 😊

LIGHTHOUSES OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY
Sunday, May 16, 1:15PM and 3:15PM. Meet in the Visitor Center, in the Sailor’s Den. Free.

Join Volunteer Warren Riley for a program on the role of lighthouses in the development of San Francisco. Learn about the history, equipment, and unique people who ran lighthouses.

HERCULES ENGINEERING TOUR
Sunday, March 7, and Fridays, April 23 and May 14, 3PM. Meet at the gangway on the Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free). Tour includes climbing moderately steep ladders and entering cramped spaces.

Explore the major engineering spaces and learn about steam engine technology and its effects on the working environment of the marine steam engineer. 😊

EUREKA ENGINE ROOM TOUR
Sunday, May 23, 3PM. Meet on Eureka’s gangway. Vessel admission (under 16 free).


Take a special tour of the ferryboat *Eureka*’s engine room and get a close-up look at what makes a steam ferry run. 😊

SMALL CRAFT COLLECTION TOUR
Saturdays, March 13, April 17, and May 8, 9:30AM-2:30PM. Free. Call 415-292-6664, or email mgardner@maritime.org, to make a reservation and for directions to the warehouse.

We’ll tour the collection of nearly 100 historic boats, stored in a warehouse in Alameda, talking about history, design and construction. Bring a bag lunch.

TRANSPACIFIC OCEAN LINERS: THE ILL-FATED SISTERS
Sunday, April 4, and Friday, May 7, 3PM. Meet in the Visitor Center, in the Sailor’s Den. Free.

This PowerPoint presentation will take you aboard the Dollar Line sister ocean liners *President Hoover* and *Coolidge*, two of the most opulent and ill-fated American liners that operated out of San Francisco during the 1930s.



At the Entrance of the
San Francisco Maritime National
Historical Park
2905 Hyde Street Pier at Hyde and Jefferson Streets
10% DISCOUNT COUPON
MODEL SHIPS, MARITIME BOOKS, SEA CHANTEY CDS
AUTHENTIC REPLICA MARITIME GIFT ITEMS AND APPAREL

The Maritime Store is operated by the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association

MARCH IS WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

EXHIBIT: WOMEN WHO CHANGED MARITIME HISTORY
Daily, throughout March. In the Visitor Center, 9:30AM TO 5PM. Free.

View a photo exhibition illustrating the often overlooked impact women have had on maritime history.

SUFFRAGETTE MARCH AND LADIES SALON
Saturday, March 13, NOON and 3PM. In the Ark houseboat and on Hyde Street Pier. Free.

Turn back the clock to 1901 and experience a costumed living history reenactment of a suffragette march. At 2PM, join a salon of Victorian women as they discuss the issues of the day. Come voice your opinion! 😊

WOMEN AT SEA
Sundays, March 14 and 28, 3-3:45PM. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free).

During the Age of Sail, the feminine presence was not typically part of a ship’s crew. However, a captain would sometimes bring along his wife and daughters. Examine family life at sea on this ranger-guided tour through the *Balclutha*. 😊

MUSIC

CHANTEY SING
Saturdays, March 6, April 3, and May 1, 8PM-MIDNIGHT. Free. Aboard a historic vessel at Hyde Street Pier. Reservations required: call 415-561-7171 or email peter_kasin@nps.gov.

Sing traditional working songs aboard a historic floating vessel. Bring a mug for hot cider served from the ship’s galley.

MUSIC OF THE SEA FOR KIDS
Saturdays, March 20, April 17, and May 15, 3PM. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free).

History comes alive for kids in this special program, where the songs are geared for younger ears and chosen especially for fun. Ages 7 and up. 😊

COSTUMED LIVING HISTORY

A DAY IN THE LIFE: 1901
Saturdays, March 13, April 10, and May 8, 11AM-4PM. Aboard the historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free). Reservations required, please call 415-447-5000.

Step into the past as you board the historic ships and meet the sailors and citizens of SF’s waterfront. In March, take part in a suffragette march for women’s rights. In April, learn about maritime arts and crafts during “Make and Mend.” May’s special event is a reenactment of President McKinley’s visit to San Francisco in 1901. 😊



Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Museum Library
Join the Friends and help support the J. Porter Shaw Library at San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. Membership includes reduced admission to Friends’ events, free admission to the Pier, and discounts on books purchased at the library and The Maritime Store on Hyde Street Pier. Call 415-561-7040.

MAY IS ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

CHINESE CANNERY WORKERS
Sundays, May 2 and 9, 3:00PM. Meet on Balclutha’s main deck at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free).

On this walking tour of *Balclutha* you will learn about the lives and cultural contributions of Chinese laborers who sailed from San Francisco to Alaska for the great salmon runs. 😊

CHINESE SHRIMP JUNK GRACE QUAN RAISES SAIL
Saturdays, May 8, 3PM and May 22, 1PM. Meet on Hyde Street Pier. Free.

Grace Quan is a replica of a 19th century San Francisco shrimp junk. Learn about the history of shrimping on the Bay and watch *Grace Quan*’s sail being raised. Come aboard and haul a net, explore the crew’s cabin, and take a turn at the tiller. 😊



IN THE LIBRARY

The library is open to the public on the third Saturday of the month, 10AM to 5PM, and Monday through Friday by making an appointment. Call 415-561-7030.

These programs are held in the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center. For reservations call 415-561-7040 or melani_van_petten@partner.nps.gov.

TRUE LIFE VIDEO ADVENTURES
Saturday, March 13, 6PM.

Join Park Ranger Debbie Grace for a look at the library’s collection of maritime documentaries. These videos are available for viewing in the library, covering topics from tying knots to the story of the 1944 Port Chicago Mutiny.

THE PORT CHICAGO MUTINY
Saturday, April 10, 6PM.

View the drama *Mutiny*, about the infamous World War II Port Chicago Mutiny, followed by a documentary about the incident, and participate in a discussion of the differences.

TOM CREAN—SAILOR ON ICE
Saturday, May 8, 6PM. Donation: \$5 (general public); \$4 (Library Friends and SFMNPA members).

David Hirzel, author of the forthcoming book, *Tom Crean—Sailor On Ice*, will tell the story of the Antarctic adventures of Irish sailor and explorer Tom Crean.

MODELERS’ WORKSHOP

Saturdays, March 20, April 17, and May 15, 9:30AM-11:30AM. On the car deck of the Eureka. Vessel admission.

Stop by for information about ship models. Modelmaking techniques are demonstrated. Questions? Call the Volunteer Office, 415-556-1613.

Today In The Park

MARCH

- 1 Women’s History Exhibit opens in Visitor Center
- Guided Tour of *Balclutha* (daily)
- Guided Tour of Bathhouse (daily)
- 6 Historic Waterfront Walking Tour (every Saturday)
- Maritime Story Time
- Chantey Sing
- 7 Fee Free Day
- Historic Waterfront Walking Tour (every Sunday)
- Hercules* Engineering Tour
- 8 Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- 13 Small Craft Collection Tour
- Costumed Living History
- True Life Video Adventures
- 14 Women at Sea
- 20 Modelmaking Workshop open

- Music of the Sea for Kids
- Maritime Library open
- 22 Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- 27 Memories Etched in Ivory
- Crafts For Kids
- Maritime Sketchbook Class
- Oar and Paddle Class begins
- 28 Women at Sea

APRIL

- 1 Guided Tour of *Balclutha* (daily)
- Guided Tour of Bathhouse (daily)
- 3 Historic Waterfront Walking Tour (every Saturday)
- Chantey Sing
- 4 Fee Free Day
- Historic Waterfront Walking Tour (every Sunday)
- Transpacific Ocean Liners
- 10 Maritime Story Time
- Costumed Living History

- Port Chicago* Mutiny
- 11 Climate Change & California Water
- 17 Small Craft Collection Tour
- Music of the Sea for Kids
- Modelmaking Workshop open
- Maritime Library open
- 21 Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- 23 *Hercules* Engineering Tour
- 24 Crafts For Kids
- 25 Beginner’s Bird Walk
- Memories Etched in Ivory
- 30 Animals of Hyde Street Pier

MAY

- 1 Guided Tour of *Balclutha* (daily)
- Guided Tour of Bathhouse (daily)
- Historic Waterfront Walking Tour (every Saturday)
- Lifesaving at the Golden Gate
- Maritime Story Time
- Chantey Sing
- 2 Fee Free Day

- Historic Waterfront Walking Tour (every Sunday)
- Chinese Cannery Workers
- 3 Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- 7 Transpacific Ocean Liners
- 8 Small Craft Collection Tour
- Costumed Living History
- Grace Quan* Raises Sail
- Tom Crean; Sailor on Ice
- 9 Chinese Cannery Workers
- 14 *Hercules* Engineering Tour
- 15 Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- Music of the Sea for Kids
- Maritime Library open
- Modelmaking Workshop open
- 16 Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- Lighthouses of SF Bay
- 19 Animals of Hyde Street Pier
- 22 *Grace Quan* Raises Sail
- Crafts For Kids
- 23 *Eureka* Engine Room Tour
- 30 Climate Change & California Water

Activity Page for Kids

Why We Need To Love Plants

Some plants produce things we like to eat such as apples, oranges, grapes, carrots, and peas. Some plants produce beautiful things for us to enjoy, like roses. Some produce seeds, leaves and flowers that we add to the food we cook to make it taste delicious—like rosemary, lavender and pepper. Plants are used to produce many kinds of products including clothing, medicine, shampoo, soap, and stuffing for pillows and diapers.

So how did all these plants get here? Some were native to the United States, and were growing here before white Europeans came. Some were brought by people like the Pilgrims, who left England almost

four hundred years ago and sailed across the Atlantic Ocean to live in a new land. To help remind them of the homeland they left forever, they brought along some of their favorite plants.

The Pilgrims probably didn’t realize they were bringing other plants



Sea lettuce (green) and red algae growing on a mooring float.

growing on the hull, or bottom, of their sailing ship. This is how many non-native, or exotic species, get transported around the world.

Just like land plants, marine plants need sunlight and water to grow.

See if you can find the words listed on the right in this word scramble:



- seaweed
- immigrants
- shampoo
- soap
- ship
- pudding
- ice cream
- nori
- fertilizer
- roses
- hull
- oxygen

However they take their oxygen from the water rather than the air. If you go down to any beach or wharf and look at the pilings you will see green, red or brown plants growing there. Seaweeds (Marine Algae) are ancient and simple plants. Like humans, they like clean water for clean oxygen as much as humans need clean air to be healthy. Seaweeds depend on clean water for their health.

Seaweeds are food for many other organisms living in the water. And

like land plants, they are an important food source for many people. Have you ever eaten sushi wrapped in Nori (Japanese word for a type of seaweed)? Seaweed is also an ingredient in ice cream and pudding. The carrageenan in ice cream is made from a type of red algae (seaweed). Seaweeds are also added to soap, shampoo and toothpaste. They also make great fertilizers for gardens.

Activity page contributor Rejane Butler.

